



**Fatality #11 - April 15, 2003**

**Machinery - Underground – Illinois**

**United Coal Mining Company - Crown III Mine**

**COAL MINE FATALITY** - On Tuesday, April 15, 2003, a fatal machinery accident claimed the life of a 43-year-old continuous mining machine operator with 12 years of mining experience. The operator had completed mining in the face of No. 2 entry and was backing up the remote control continuous miner to clean up the left side of the cut. The operator was found behind the line curtain and was pinned between the left rear of the continuous mining machine and the left rib.



**Best Practices**

- Avoid pinch points between the rib and machinery during tramming operations.
- Ensure everyone is in a safe location when starting and moving the equipment.
- Avoid positioning yourself behind the line curtain while tramming machinery.
- Ensure that persons are beyond the machine's turning radius during remote control tramming.

This is the 11<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2003 in the coal mining industry. As of the accident date in 2002, there were 10 fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> fatality classified Machinery in 2003. At this time in 2002, there was one fatality classified as Machinery.